



City of Portage Illicit Discharge Elimination

March 2004 – March 31, 2006

The goal of this project was to eliminate illicit discharges to the City's separate storm sewer system. The following objectives were accomplished:

- **Storm Sewer Mapping-** Approximately 100 additional outfalls were surveyed. The City has a more complete knowledge of their storm sewer inventory for future IDEP efforts.
- **Illicit Discharge Detection** - Illicit discharges were not detected at close to 300 outfalls. This indicated that surface water is not severely impacted by illicit discharges and eliminated the need for upstream tracing and site inspections.

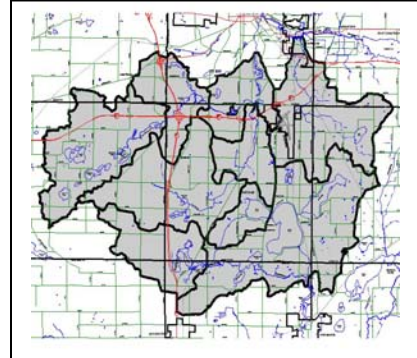
Grant Amount: \$ 152,264
Match Funds: \$ 51,170
Total Amount: \$ 203,434

Partners involved:

City of Portage
Kalamazoo County Drain Commissioner
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
West Lake Association
Austin Lake Association
Gourdneck Lake Association
Austin Lake Board
Long Lake Board
Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc.



Davis, Gourdneck, Portage Creek Watershed Management Plan



Illicit Discharge Detection Results:

- 15 outlets exhibited dry weather flow
 - Two were a permitted NPDES discharge
 - One was an irrigation system recirculation water
 - Two were from a fountain
 - Ten were ground water leaching into the storm sewer system
- The City sent letters to two outfall owners regarding dechlorination of swimming pool water prior to discharges to surface waters.

BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:

- The City has better knowledge of their storm sewer to assist with their inlet inventory and stenciling program.
- The fact that over 50% of the surface water outfalls are privately owned helps that City prioritize water quality improvement activities.
- The lack of illicit discharges helps the City focus on illicit discharge prevention
- An event was held to inform lake association members and City staff about illicit discharge evaluation techniques so they can assist with future efforts.
- Efficiencies in implementation allowed for additional mapping and outlet screening to occur above and beyond what was outlined in the initial grant agreement.

PROJECT PRODUCTS:

- Quality Assurance Project Plan
- Illicit Discharge Elimination Plan Outfall Screening Manual

